Dear Friends of Aviation

WSDOT Aviation Division Monthly Update   **August, 2002**

News

Aviation Alliance

An Aviation Alliance Committee under the leadership of John Sibold, Director of Aviation, has been formed recently. Comprised of state aviation leaders, the purpose of the Alliance is to solicit input from interested parties on the important issues facing aviation in Washington State.   Representatives included Civil Air Patrol, Washington Pilots Association, Kenmore Air Harbor, National Business Aircraft Association, Women in Aviation, Washington Airport Managers Association, FAA, Washington Public Ports, Community Airports Association, and Experimental Airport Association.

At the most recent meeting, the Alliance discussed ideas on ways to improve communications, pilot education, airport aid funding and the state's airports. Input from this meeting has been used to assist in the draft of the Division's Business plan that will be reviewed in the September Meeting of the Aviation Alliance.

As a result recommendations from a recent study of the Aviation Division by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, WSDOT may be recommending to the Transportation Commission in September to formalize the Aviation Alliance into a permanent Aviation Advisory Committee.
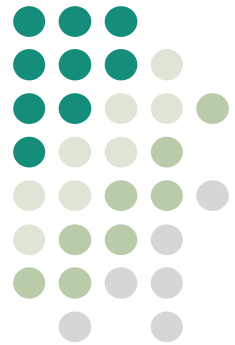
In addition, the Aviation Division continues to look for opportunities to receive input directly from our customers on the level of service being provided by the Division. As one measurement tool, the Division has begun work on an annual Customer Survey to measure satisfaction with State grant programs that provide money to local airports. Local highway and rail programs will also use this survey. The results of the survey will be available to the public at the end of the year and will be used to measure improvements in performance in future years.

Airport Aid Grant Program Task Force Formed

A new task force has been formed to make recommendations on how to improve the Aviation Division's Airport Aid Grant Program. The task force includes 15 airport managers and pilots who represent airports and users throughout the state of Washington.

The Advisory Task Force has been asked to advise the Aviation Division on several issues including, but not limited to:

Types of uses best funded by the Grant Program given the disparity between the amounts of need identified in the State Airport System Plan compared to the amount of money available for grant funding.
How should the State Airport Aid Grant Program relate to FAA programs and requirements?
What criteria should be used for determining eligibility for the State Airport Aid Grants?
How should the eligible projects be prioritized?
How should the matching fund requirements be established?

News (cont'd)

Airport Aid Grant Program Task Force (cont'd)

The Task Force recommendations will be forwarded the Aviation Division for consideration in helping to establish final guidelines for grants in the 2003-2005 biennium.

For more information on the Airport Grants Program or the Advisory Task Force please contact: Stan Allison, WSDOT Aviation Division Airport Aid Grant Program Manager (360) 651-6304 or allisos@wsdot.wa.gov.

Airport Grants:

Chehalis – Centralia
Runway Marking $ 2,300.00

Lewis County
Replace Runway Light Electrical System &
Runway Crack Sealing $26,180.00

Skagit Regional
Grant increase for Runway Lighting Package $ 5,014.91
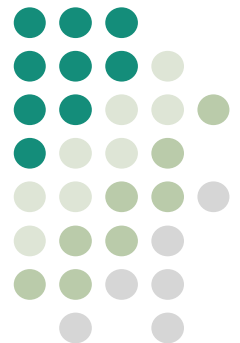
Deer Park
Runway Lighting Controller   (valued @ $3,000.00)

Security Task Force Approved

The Transportation Commission has approved the Division's request to form a task force to develop best security practices for general aviation airports in Washington State.

Since 9/11, security has become a major concern for all airports and the Transportation Security Agency (TSA) is currently working to implement stronger security measures at commercial airports. "Eventually, the government will begin looking at general aviation airports and we feel it is imperative that we have policies and practices in place that can be used as a model by TSA to help in future security decisions for Washington's general aviation airports," said John Sibold, director of the Aviation Division.

The task force will consist of pilots, general aviation associations, airport sponsors, and other governmental agencies. "It is important to have input from those in the aviation industry who understand the overall issues of both aviation and security," added Sibold, "We want to establish realistic provisions that reflect the perceived local threat and vigilant practices are key to preserving and improving our general aviation system."

- July -
New Registrations
Pilots: 409
Aircraft: 58

2002
Year To Date:
Pilots: 5091
Aircraft: 3909

2001
Year to Date:
Pilots: 5201
Aircraft: 4033

NEWS

Flight Across America

The Flight Across America, a national effort to celebrate the freedom of flight in America and honor those fallen in the 9/11 terrorist attacks, will have its kick off on August 11th at Paine Field. Starting at 9:00 am with breakfast served by local firefighters, WSDOT Secretary Doug MacDonald, and John Sibold, Aviation Division Director, will read a proclamation from Governor Locke and present a Washington State flag. Afterwards, dozens of aircraft will depart in an effort to land at all 138 airports in the State.

"It's fitting that this historic event launches from Washington," said John Sibold, "because our state has such a rich history in aviation."

Secretary MacDonald's message at the send-off will underwrite WSDOT's strong, steady support of Washington aviation – which is a significant part of the state's transportation system.

For more Information please call Flight Across America at: (425) 702-9231 or visit their web site: www.flightacrossamerica.com.

Airport System Plan

The Washington State Department of Transportation Aviation Division has been conducting continuous airport system planning for the State's 129 public-use airport facilities since 1987. The Airport System Plan is the data collection portion of aviation planning that helps to identify the physical facility needs for the State's system of airports. The Aviation System Plan's primary function is to aid funding decisions through the Local Airport Aid Program and the Airport Improvement Program.

As part of the 2002 System Plan update, W&H Pacific is collecting field survey information utilizing Global Positioning System technology. This new data will be collected, calculated, and tabulated for each of approximately 93 general aviation airports to be visited. This will provide the state and airport sponsors accurate runway end coordinates, runway lengths, runway bearings, and locations and elevations of controlling obstructions. This level of accuracy will help correct some runway coordinates that are hundreds of feet off, and will better help protect airports from obstructions. It will also facilitate initial FAA arrangements for new GPS approaches.

Upcoming Events:

AUGUST

Abbotsford Int'l Air Show
August 9-11 (604) 852-8511

SAR Orientation Course
August 10 and 11 - Pullman
August 17 – Spokane
(800) 552-0666

Flight Across America Kickoff
August 11 – Paine Field
9:00 Breakfast
(425) 702-6231

SEPTEMBER

2002 Mountain Flying Clinic
September 7&8- Wenatchee
(800) 552-0666

CFI Refresher Clinic
September 14 &15 -Spokane
(800) 552-0666
www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation

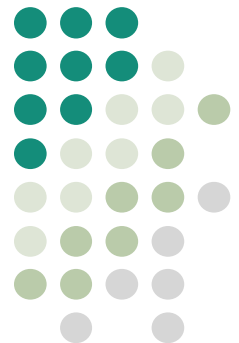## - July -

Air Search and Rescue

ELTs: 24
SARs: 4
Medivac: 6
Accidents: 3
Overdue: 4
Wildfires: 1
Hazmat: 1

July Total: 43

Dear Friends of Aviation

CFI Refresher Clinic Scheduled for September

The Aviation Division will host a Certified Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic on September 14-15 at the Spokane International Airport Ramada Inn, 8909 Airport Road, in Spokane. The two-day clinic is free of charge, however it is open only to certified flight instructors who are currently registered pilots within the state of Washington.
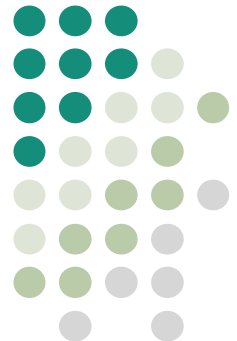
Through the use of dynamic interactive Internet presentations and computer graphics, Gold Seal Certified Flight Instructor Harry LaForge and his staff will provide the tools to help pilots renew flight instructor certificates, fly more safely, and update flying techniques.

Certificates expiring in September, October, November or December 2002 may be renewed and a new temporary certificate will be issued at the clinic with no change in expiration date.

Interested participants can either call the Aviation Division or go to the web site and register on line.

We Would Like to Hear From You!!!!
We would like to invite readers of this monthly update to send us your comments, concerns and any information that you feel would be appropriate to include in next month's edition. If you are interested in contributing a column or items for the newsletter we would love to hear from you. Please call or email Debby Coyne (360) 651-6300 or coyned@wsdot.wa.gov.

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